

Apr. 28. 2003 3:37PM FRISHAUF & PARTNERS

No. 6162 P. 1/6
From: HOLTZ

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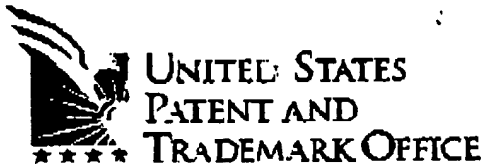
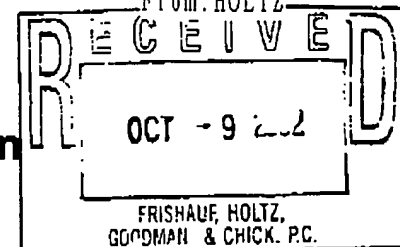
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TO: EXAMINER N.Y.T. VU
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Oct. 2 2002 2:03PM FRISHAUF & PARTNERS
No. 6162 Page 2/6
From: HOLTZ

Attorney Docket No. 980624/111
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hitoshi HASHIMOTO
Serial No. : 09/160,604
Filed : September 25, 1998
For : AUTO-FOCUSING APPARATUS
Art Unit : 2612
Examiner : W. V. T. WU

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 13, 2002,
the term for response to which expires on October 13, 2002,
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:
Please add new claims 16-20 as follows:

16. (New) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the
focusing section includes a processor which determines an
in-focus state by checking after the high speed mode whether a
peak value of auto-focusing evaluation value is detected or
becomes indefinite due to an error.

17. (New) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the
focusing section executes the high speed mode in response to a
first release operation.

18. (New) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the
focusing section determines whether the first release operation

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Attorney Docket No. 980624/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Hitoshi HASHIMOTO

Serial No. : 09/160,604

Filed : September 25, 1998

For : AUTO-FOCUSING APPARATUS

Art Unit : 2612

Examiner : N. Y. T. Vu

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Attorney: Leonard Holtz

Dated: October 9, 2002

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From: HOLTZ

4/28/03
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Attorney Docket No. 980624/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Hitoshi HASHIMOTO

Serial No. : 09/160,604

Filed : September 25, 1998

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Art Unit : 2612

Examiner : N. Y. T. Vu

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17. (New) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the focusing section executes the high speed mode in response to a first release operation.

18. (New) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the focusing section determines whether the first release operation

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time, and to the extent not
tendered by check attached
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charge the extension fee to
Account No. 06-1378.